

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 4, 2003. Claim 66 is in the application. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

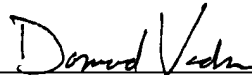
Applicant gratefully acknowledges that Claim 66 has been allowed. This claim has not been amended herein and thus remains in condition for allowance.

Claims 55 to 65, which were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,607,718 (Sasaki) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,868,866 (Maekawa), have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein and without conceding the correctness of the rejection.

No other matters being raised, the entire application is believed to be fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Damond Vadnais", is written over a horizontal line.

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